

Not used

Def. Doc. 589

Translated by Defense Language
Branch

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

- vs -

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

S'CRN Deposition (Translation)

Deponent: YAMAMOTO, Kuniichi

Having first duly sworn an oath as on attached sheet
and in accordance with the procedure followed in my country
I hereby depose as follows:

1. I was appointed the Vice-Minister of the Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministry in November, 1942, when the Ministry was first established. I remained in the same office until I was sent to Thailand in August, 1944, as an Ambassador. Accordingly, I am well acquainted with the happenings of the Greater East Asia Conference in November, 1943. I took general charge of the business of this Conference.
2. Since the outbreak of the Greater East Asiatic War in 1941, there had been certain happenings in various localities where our officials were stationed, which did not exactly coincide with the views of the government at home. In the summer of 1942, therefore, the government in Tokyo established the policy that a more liberal atmosphere should be created in various localities. In 1943 I accompanied Premier TOJO in his trip through Southern Regions. During this trip also I proposed to the Premier that the native inhabitants be given opportunities to express their wishes freely. I overheard the Premier giving orders to this effect to our organs in the field.

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3. Thus the Greater East Asia Conference of 1943 was convened with the aim of giving the various peoples of East Asia opportunities to freely express their opinions and, in general, in order to create a liberal atmosphere. Representatives of the various localities, having been duly invited, gladly participated in the Conference. No previous arrangements had been made as to addresses delivered by the representatives at the Conference. Persons like Mr. Laurel and Dr. Ba Mow delivered extemporaneous speeches, without relying on notes. Mr. Chandra Bose also voluntarily gave a fiery speech.

4. Later I had an opportunity to meet the representatives who participated in the Conference. All of them, Prince Wan Wai of Thailand, Dr. Ba Mow of Burma, Mr. Chandra Bose of the Provisional Government of India, and others expressed their pleasure to have attended the Conference.

5. In brief it is not true that when the Greater East Asia Conference was convened Japan compelled the attendance of the representatives of various countries. Further, their addresses were made of their own free will. This I can say with firm conviction.

On this 19th day of February, 1947
at Tokyo

/s/ YOSHICHI, Kuniichi (Seal)

C. H.

In accordance with my conscience I swear to tell the whole truth withholding nothing and adding nothing.

(signed) YOSHICHI, Kuniichi
(Seal)

PURL: <http://www.legal-tools.com>

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On this 19th day of February, 1947
at Tokyo

DEPOVENT: YOSHIMOTO, Kuniichi (Seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and
seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the Witness.

at the same place,
on the same date

WITNESS: (Signed) ANDO, Yoshinaga (Seal)

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TRANSLATION CERTIFICATE

I, William E. Clarke, of the Defense Language Branch, hereby certify that the foregoing translation described in the attached certificate is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a correct translation and is as near as possible to the meaning of the original document.

/s/ William E. Clarke

Tokyo, Japan
Date 25 February 1947

(Affidavit of YAMMOTO, Kuniichi)

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極東國際軍事裁判所
亞米利加合衆國其他対荒木貞夫其他

宣誓証供述書

供述者 山本熊一

自分儀我國に於て行はるゝ法式に従ひ先づ宣誓を為したる上左記の陳述をいたします

一、松井一九四三年十一月大東亜省が設立せられて以来大東亜次官となり一九四四年八月大使として泰國へ派遣せられる迄在職しました。從て一九四三年十一月つ大東亜會議の事はよく存じて居ります。私は此會議の仕事を總括するやうな事をしました。

二、一九四一年大東亜戦争が始まって以来、出先に於ては本國の意思に合せざる節もなつてはありませなんだから一九四二年夏以来各地により自由な空氣を入れねばならぬとの考が東京政府の方針となりました。一九四三年私は東條首相と共に南方に旅行しましたが此旅行中にも私は首相に各地在住民として志を伸べしもう機會を与ふべき事を進言しました。首相は現地に於ても我國の機関に此旨を命じたりを聽きました。

三、以上の如く來亞諸民族をして自由に意見を陳べ一般に自由なる空氣を入れるといふ考の下に一九四三年の大東亜會議が開かれました。其の会の招請に対して各代表は喜んで参加して居ります。又会議に於ける演説も豫め訂合せ等は致して古りませぬ。ラマレル氏、バーモ博士の如きも原稿にたよらず自由の發意で演説して居ります。チヤンドラ、ボース氏の如きも进而て熱辯を揮いました。

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四 某後來會日、代表に會つた機會に泰國のワニ
ワイ殿下、ビルマのバモ博士、印度政府、
ナヤドラボース氏等は總て此の會議へ參會
を缺て居ります。

五 要すに我方で大東亜會議開催につき、各國代表に
出席を強要した事は断じておません。又演説
は全く自由の意思に基くものあります。この
は私は信念を以て申上申す事から未だす。

一九四七年二月十九日 於 東京

以上

山本熊一 (印)

右は同日同所に於て自分面前に於て署名捺印
せられた。

安東義良 (印)

宣誓書

良心は從て眞実、陳へ何事ヲモ黙秘セズ
又何事ヲモ附加セサルコトヲ誓ム。

山本熊一 (印)

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